

17 of said flywheel body, said first portion of said reinforcing  
18 member is in the form of an outward flange (4b), said first  
19 portion of said flywheel body is [slidably] mounted on said  
20 cylindrical portion of said reinforcing member [so that], and  
21 said cylindrical portion of said reinforcing member is sized  
22 to allow said first portion of said flywheel body [is] to  
23 slide axially [slidable] between said inner portion of said  
24 elastic plate and said outward flange of said reinforcing  
25 member.

1 28. (Amended) A flywheel assembly as set forth in Claim  
2 [24] 16 wherein an axial run-out of said [engageable] engaging  
3 surface when rotated by said crankshaft is no more than 0.1  
4 mm.

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response to the Interview Summary dated April 22, 1997. Reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

By the foregoing supplemental amendment, claims 13 to 15, 17 to 27, 29, 30, and 32 to 46 have been cancelled, and claims 5 and 28 have been amended. Thus, claims 1 to 12, 16, 28, and 31

remain pending for the Examiner's consideration.

Applicants and their representatives would like to thank Examiner Luong for the courtesy extended to them during the interview on April 22, 1997. The substance of the interview is believed to be accurately reflected herein, as well as in the response filed March 17, 1997 and the Interview Summary form dated April 22, 1997. As requested by the Examiner, this Supplemental Amendment has been prepared to simplify the issues of new matter and to expedite allowance of the application. Each of the alleged instances of new matter identified by the Examiner during the interview, as well as several of the newly added claims, have been deleted by this Supplemental Amendment.

Claims 16, 28, and 31 are now the only claims pending in this reissue application that were not present in the issued '635 patent. The pending independent claims 16 and 31 are similar in format to the issued patent claims 1 and 8, except that the last paragraph of each claim has been changed to broaden the claims in certain respects so as to read on other embodiments of the Applicants' invention, and to narrow the claims in other respects so as to continue to distinguish over the prior art references of Numata '542 and JP '639.

The pending claims 16, 28, and 31 clearly do not have substantially the same scope as the appealed claims in the parent

application and, therefore, should not be subject to a res judicata rejection. The claims on appeal in the parent application lacked, among other things, the limitation that the elastic plate is clamped axially between the reinforcing member and a shaft end of the crankshaft. As noted on pages 39 to 40 of the Amendment filed March 17, 1997, independent claims 16, and 31 each recites limitations drawn to this feature which were not in the claims on appeal in the parent application, and which clearly distinguish over the teachings of Numata '542.

The Examiner's objections to the specification and rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, are further obviated by the changes made by this Supplemental Amendment. Specifically, the claims which allegedly contained subject matter not described in the original specification have been canceled by this amendment, thereby making it unnecessary to make substantial revisions to the specification of the issued '635 patent.

Applicants will prepare and file a Second Supplemental Reissue Declaration to reflect the changes made by this Supplemental Amendment, upon approval of such changes by the Examiner.

Should the Examiner have any comments or suggestions that could place this application into even better form, he is

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encouraged to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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